

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A coffee machine for preparing coffee using coffee pads, which comprises a continuous heater provided with a water-guiding pipe that is thermally connected to two heating rods provided at opposite sides of the pipe by means of ~~at least one~~ contact surfaces ~~surface~~, and a pump for transporting water through the continuous heater, wherein the ~~at least one~~ all of the contact surfaces of ~~surface between~~ the pipe and the heating rods ~~is embodied such that it is~~ are flat,

wherein the pipe has ends into which hose-like flexible tube connecting pieces of a water supply and a water exit ~~can be~~ are inserted, and wherein the connecting pieces are made of plastic and comprise securing means for securing the continuous heater on a housing of the coffee machine.

11-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) The coffee machine according to claim 10, wherein the pipe and the ~~at least one~~ two heating rods ~~rod~~ are held together by a sleeve.

14. (Previously Presented) The coffee machine according to claim 13, wherein a temperature sensor is disposed adjacent the sleeve.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) The coffee machine according to claim 10, wherein the connecting pieces are provided with seals.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The coffee machine according to claim ~~[[17]]~~ 10, further comprising holders provided on the securing means, the holders being configured to receive additional components of the coffee machine.

19. (Currently Amended) A coffee machine for preparing coffee using coffee pads, the coffee machine comprising:

a continuous heater provided with a water-guiding pipe;

two heating rods provided on opposite sides of the pipe and thermally connected to the pipe by corresponding contact surfaces, wherein all of the contact surfaces between the two heating rods and the pipe are flattened; and

a pump cooperable with the continuous heater and transporting water through the continuous heater,

wherein the pipe has ends into which hose-like flexible tube connecting pieces of a water supply and a water exit ~~can be~~ are inserted, and wherein the connecting pieces are made of plastic and comprise securing means for securing the continuous heater on a housing of the coffee machine.

20. (Currently Amended) The coffee machine according to claim 19, wherein the pipe and the ~~at least one~~ two heating ~~rods~~ rod are held together by a sleeve.

21. (Previously Presented) The coffee machine according to claim 20, wherein a temperature sensor is disposed adjacent the sleeve.

22. (Previously Presented) The coffee machine according to claim 19, wherein the connecting pieces are provided with seals.

23. (Currently Amended)) The coffee machine according to claim 19, further comprising holders provided on the securing means, the holders being configured to receive additional components of the coffee machine.